

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-10 ERDA-07 AF-08 ARA-10 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 EA-09 EUR-12 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NASA-02  
NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-02 PRS-01  
OES-06 SS-15 USIA-15 SAJ-01 /147 W  
-----100247Z 115642 /66

R 091840Z FEB 77

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2361

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO

UNCLAS USUN 373

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, UN

SUBJECT: UN SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT: COMPOSITION

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OF PREPARATORY COMMITTEE

REF: A) USUN 58; B) USUN 219; C) USUN 326; D) STATE 26795

1. IN NOTE A/31/475, DATED FEBRUARY 7, SECRETARY GENERAL  
REPORTED COMMUNICATION FROM UNGA PRESIDENT AMERASINGHE  
ANNOUNCING APPOINTMENT OF 54 MEMBERS OF PREPARATORY

COMMITTEE FOR 1978 SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT.  
FINAL COMPOSITION IS AS SET OUT IN REF D WITH EXCEPTION OF EAST EUROPEAN GROUP, WHICH HAS DROPPED TWO NOMINEES (BULGARIA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA) LEAVING A TOTAL OF SIX MEMBERS (GDR, HUNGARY, POLAND, ROMANIA, USSR, YUGOSLAVIA)

2. AMERASINGHE REPORTED FEBRUARY 3 LETTER FROM CHAIRMAN OF EAST EUROPEAN GROUP CONCERNING THAT GROUP'S ALLOCATION. LETTER SAYS EE GROUP "MOST EMPHATICALLY DECLARES ITS DISAGREEMENT WITH THE ALLOCATION" AND REITERATES EE INSISTENCE THAT "SO-CALLED ECOSOC FORMULA... COULD NOT BE APPLIED IN THIS CASE." LETTER CONTINUES: "TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THAT THE COMMITTEE IS TO BE SEIZED OF MATTERS RELATED TO THE LIMITATION OF THE ARMS RACE AND TO DISARMAMENT, IT COMPOSITION MUST REFLECT THE REAL ROLE PLAYED BY THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES OF EASTERN EUROPE IN THIS FIELD, WHICH IS KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION IN THE COMPOSITION OF OTHER BODIES FOR DISARMAMENT NEGOTIATIONS."

3. EE LETTER ADDS: "THE GROUP CONTINUES TO INSIST ON ITS DEMAND ON ALLOCATION TO 1 OF EIGHT SEATS IN THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE...AND AGREES TO THE PARTICIPATION OF SIX OF ITS REPRESENTATIVES IN THIS COMMITTEE ONLY ON A TEMPORARY BASIS, FOR THE PERIOD UNTIL THE 32ND SESSION OF THE GA, SO AS NOT TO IMPEDE THE BEGINNING OF THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE--THE UNCLASSIFIED

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GROUP RESERVES ITS RIGHT TO BE ALLOCATED ADDITIONAL SEATS IN THE COMMITTEE AT THE 32ND SESSION OF THE GA AND INTENDS TO REVERT TO THE QUESTION OF THE REPRESENTATION OF THE COUNTRIES OF THE EASTERN EUROPEAN GROUP IN THIS BODY."

4. AMERASINGHE NOTES THAT WEO GROUP "CONSIDERED IT-SELF ENTITLED TO 18 SEATS" BUT "WAS PREPARED TO RECONCILE ITSELF TO A QUOTA OF 13 SEATS."

5. AMERASINGHE, AT END OF HIS LETTER, DISAVOWS PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR DETERMINATION OF THE PRECISE ALLOCATION OF SEATS, SAYING ELSEWHERE THAT HE HAD BEEN "MADE TO UNDERSTAND" THAT THE FORMULA USED "WAS GENERALLY ACCEPTABLE." HE ALSO VOLUNTEERS AN OBSERVATION THAT THE PRINCIPLE OF EQUITABLE GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION "NEEDS MORE PRECISE DEFINITION IF PROTRACTED DISCUSSIONS AND NEGOTIATIONS ARE TO BE AVOIDED IN THE FUTURE IN GIVING EFFECT TO IT," ADDING

THAT THIS, HOWEVER, IS A MATTER FOR THE REGIONAL GROUPS  
TO SETTLE AMONG THEMSELVES.  
BENNETT

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Reference:** 77 USUN NEW YORK 58, 77 USUN NEW YORK 219, 77 USUN NEW YORK 326, 77 STATE 26795  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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